

Friday, March 11, 2011

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate was not in session today. It will next meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2011.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 35 public bills, H.R. 1031–1055; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 48; and H. Res. 165–166, were introduced.

Pages H1767–69

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages H1770–71

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 147, providing for the expenses of certain committees of the House of Representatives in the One Hundred Twelfth Congress (H. Rept. 112–30);

H.R. 839, to amend the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 to terminate the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury to provide new assistance under the Home Affordable Modification Program, while preserving assistance to homeowners who were already extended an offer to participate in the Program, either on a trial or permanent basis, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–31); and

H.R. 861, to rescind the third round of funding for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program and to terminate the program, with an amendment (H. Rept. 112–32).

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Emergency Mortgage Relief Program Termination Act: The House passed H.R. 836, to rescind the unobligated funding for the Emergency Mortgage Relief Program and to terminate the program, by a recorded vote of 242 ayes to 177 noes, Roll No. 174.

Pages H1731–51

Rejected the Connolly motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Financial Services with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 182 ayes to 238 noes, Roll No. 173.

Pages H1748–50

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule. **Page H1739**

Agreed to:

Canseco amendment (No. 5 printed in the Congressional Record of March 9, 2011) that provides that all unexpended balances rescinded and permanently canceled by the Emergency Mortgage Relief Program's termination be retained in the General Fund of the Treasury for reducing the federal government debt and

Pages H1740–42

Neugebauer amendment (No. 3 printed in the Congressional Record of March 9, 2011) that includes military servicemembers and veterans who have service-related injuries, as well as survivors and dependents of such individuals, in a study on use of the Emergency Mortgage Relief Program. **Page H1742**

Rejected:

Waters amendment (No. 4 printed in the Congressional Record of March 9, 2011) that sought to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to post a statement prominently on the HUD website stating that the Emergency Mortgage Relief Program has been terminated and including contact information for borrowers who are uncertain as to how to proceed (by a recorded vote of 185 ayes to 237 noes, Roll No. 172).

Pages H1742–46, S1747–48

Point of Order sustained against:

Loretta Sanchez amendment (No. 7 printed in the Congressional Record of March 9, 2011) that sought to provide that the bill take effect on the first date occurring after enactment on which the Current Population Survey of the Bureau of Labor Statistics

of the Labor Department, as released monthly, identifies that the unemployment rate for the United States is equal to 7.5% or less. **Pages H1746–47**

Agreed that the Clerk be authorized to make technical and conforming changes to reflect the actions of the House. **Page H1751**

H. Res. 151, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to on Wednesday, March 9th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday, March 14th, when it shall convene at noon for morning hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

Page H1754

Recess: The House recessed at 3:02 p.m. and reconvened at 3:37 p.m. **Pages H1766–67**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1747–48, H1750, H1750–51. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Committee Meetings

HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security held a hearing on FY 2012 Oversight and Budget. Testimony was heard from ADM Robert Papp, Commandant, United States Coast Guard.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Forest Service FY12 Budget Oversight Hearing. Testimony was heard from Tom Tidwell, Chief, Forest Service.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services FY 2012 Budget Request. Testimony was heard from Margaret A. Hamburg, M.D., Commissioner, FDA.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Members and Outside Witness Hearing. Testimony was heard from Rep. Cicilline; Rep. Farr; Rep. Richardson; and public witnesses.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on FY 2012 Oversight & Budget Department of Homeland Security. Testimony was heard from John Morton, Assistant Secretary, Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

LABOR, HEALTH, AND HUMAN SERVICES

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies held a hearing on Status of Health Reform Implementation. Testimony was heard from Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a hearing on Library of Congress FY 2012 Budget. Testimony was heard from James H. Billington, Librarian of Congress.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a hearing on Government Accountability Office FY 2012 Budget. Testimony was heard from Gene L. Dodaro, Comptroller General.

EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities held a hearing on counter proliferation strategy and the fiscal year 2012 national defense authorization budget request for the Defense Threat Reduction Agency and chemical biological defense program. Testimony was heard from Kenneth B. Handelman, Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Global Strategic Affairs; Andrew Weber, Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs; Kenneth A. Myers, III, Director, Defense Threat Reduction Agency; and Brigadier General Jess A. Scarbrough, USA, Joint Program Executive Officer for Chemical and Biological Defense, Office of the Secretary of Defense.

FEDERAL OVERREACH INTO ACADEMICS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training held a hearing on Education Regulations: Federal Overreach into Academic Affairs. Testimony was heard from Kathleen Tighe, Inspector General, Department of Education; and public witnesses.

FY 2012 BUDGET—EPA

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power and the Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy held a joint hearing entitled “The FY 2012 EPA Budget”. Testimony was